

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
29 December 2004 (29.12.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/113039 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **B27K 3/08**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/AU2004/000820

(22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2004 (23.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2003903242 25 June 2003 (25.06.2003) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE [AU/AU]; Grattan  
Street, Parkville, Victoria 3052 (AU).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): VINDEN, Peter  
[GB/AU]; 55 Drummond Street, Creswick, Victoria 3363  
(AU).

(74) Agents: DARK, Andrew et al.; 1 Little Collins Street,  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,  
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,  
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,  
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,  
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE TREATMENT OF WOOD

(57) Abstract: A process for the treatment of wood including: placing the wood to be treated in a treatment vessel and applying a vacuum; exposing the wood to a treatment solution while substantially maintaining said vacuum; applying a predetermined pressure to the wood for a period of time sufficient to partially impregnate the wood with the treatment solution; reducing the pressure within the treatment vessel and concurrently emptying the treatment vessel of treatment solution; whereby immediately after said reduction of pressure within the treatment vessel, the partially impregnated wood includes an unimpregnated inner zone which has a residual vacuum elevating seepage of treatment solution from the partially impregnated wood.



WO 2004/113039 A1